

Unemployment Scenario

1311. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the downsizing efforts of Government in their departments and PSEs has further aggravated the unemployment scenario in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed downsizing of the Ministries/ Departments and PSEs; and
- (c) how Government propose to tackle the growing unemployment situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Out of a total of around 40 crore employment in the country in the year 2000 only around 49 crore were employed in Public Sector which includes Central Government, State Governments, Quasi Government (Central), Quasi Government (States) and Local Bodies. Therefore effects of downsizing in the Public Sector, even if affected, will have no significant effect on unemployment scenario in the country.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Ninth Plan had accorded priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. The plan had focused on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

A special group has been set up by Planning Commission to suggest measures to generate one crore employment opportunities during each year of the Tenth five year plan.

Farm Workers in Gujarat

1312. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have conducted any survey regarding the existing number of farm workers in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof giving men, women and child farm workers;
- (c) the welfare measures being extended to these workers; and